

RESOLUTION NO. 05 - 11 - 10A
A RESOLUTION OF THE
BOROUGH OF NEWTOWN
BUCKS COUNTY, PENNSYLVANIA

RESOLUTION SUPPORTING A NEW REVIEW BY THE PENNSYLVANIA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION, BUCKS COUNTY PLANNING COMMISSION, DELAWARE VALLEY REGIONAL PLANNING COMMISSION, AND SOUTHEASTERN PENNSYLVANIA TRANSPORTATION AUTHORITY, OF THE REINSTATEMENT OF REGIONAL RAIL SERVICE TO POINTS BETWEEN FOX CHASE AND NEWTOWN BOROUGH

WHEREAS, reinstatement of regional rail service on the SEPTA Newtown Line North of Fox Chase will afford Newtown Borough residents with an easy and efficient means of transportation to and from Center City Philadelphia and points on SEPTA's Regional Rail system; and

WHEREAS, the rate of development throughout the Newtown Rail Line corridor has consistently been among the highest in Pennsylvania for over forty years and is expected to continue into the future; and

WHEREAS, exceptionally high growth rates of housing development and population in areas of Montgomery and Bucks Counties formally serviced by the Newtown Rail Line North of Fox Chase has caused crowded trains and a severe lack of parking for riders forced to use stations of the R2 and R3 Rail Lines ; and

WHEREAS, traffic congestion and travel delays in the suburban areas of Southeastern Pennsylvania adversely affect the movement of people and goods throughout the region; and

WHEREAS, sound planning principles indicate a growing need to expand the use of regional commuter rail systems to improve mobility and overall air quality; and

WHEREAS, the March 2009 DVRPC Green House Gas Emissions Study has determined that per capita GHG emissions are significantly higher in the outer suburbs due to increased use of automobiles as compared to the inner suburbs; and

WHEREAS, the existing SEPTA Newtown Line Right Of Way, recognized as an asset to our regional transportation system, has been allowed to deteriorate over time and even be dismantled by other parties for purposes other than regional commuter rail at a time when energy costs and environmental concerns have led local, state and federal leaders to call for reduced vehicle miles traveled (VMT) and increased use of regional commuter rail;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Council of Newtown Borough, County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania that the Borough Council hereby publicly states its

support for cooperative effort with other municipalities, the County of Bucks, and the business community, for the Southeastern Pennsylvania Transportation Authority, the Bucks County Planning Commission and the Pennsylvania Department of Transportation to conduct a feasibility study for the reinstatement of regional rail service on the existing right of way of the Newtown Line north of Fox Chase to Newtown, Pennsylvania.

I HEREBY CERTIFY that the foregoing Resolution was adopted by the Council of Newtown Borough, County of Bucks, Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at its meeting held at 30 North Chancellor Street, Newtown, Pennsylvania 18940 on this 11 day of May, 2010.

NEWTOWN BOROUGH COUNCIL

By: Julia W. Woldorf
Julia W. Woldorf, Council President

By: Dennis F. O'Brien
Dennis F. O'Brien, Mayor

ATTEST:

By: Marcia M. Scull
Marcia M. Scull, Borough Secretary

Approved this 11 day of May, 2010.